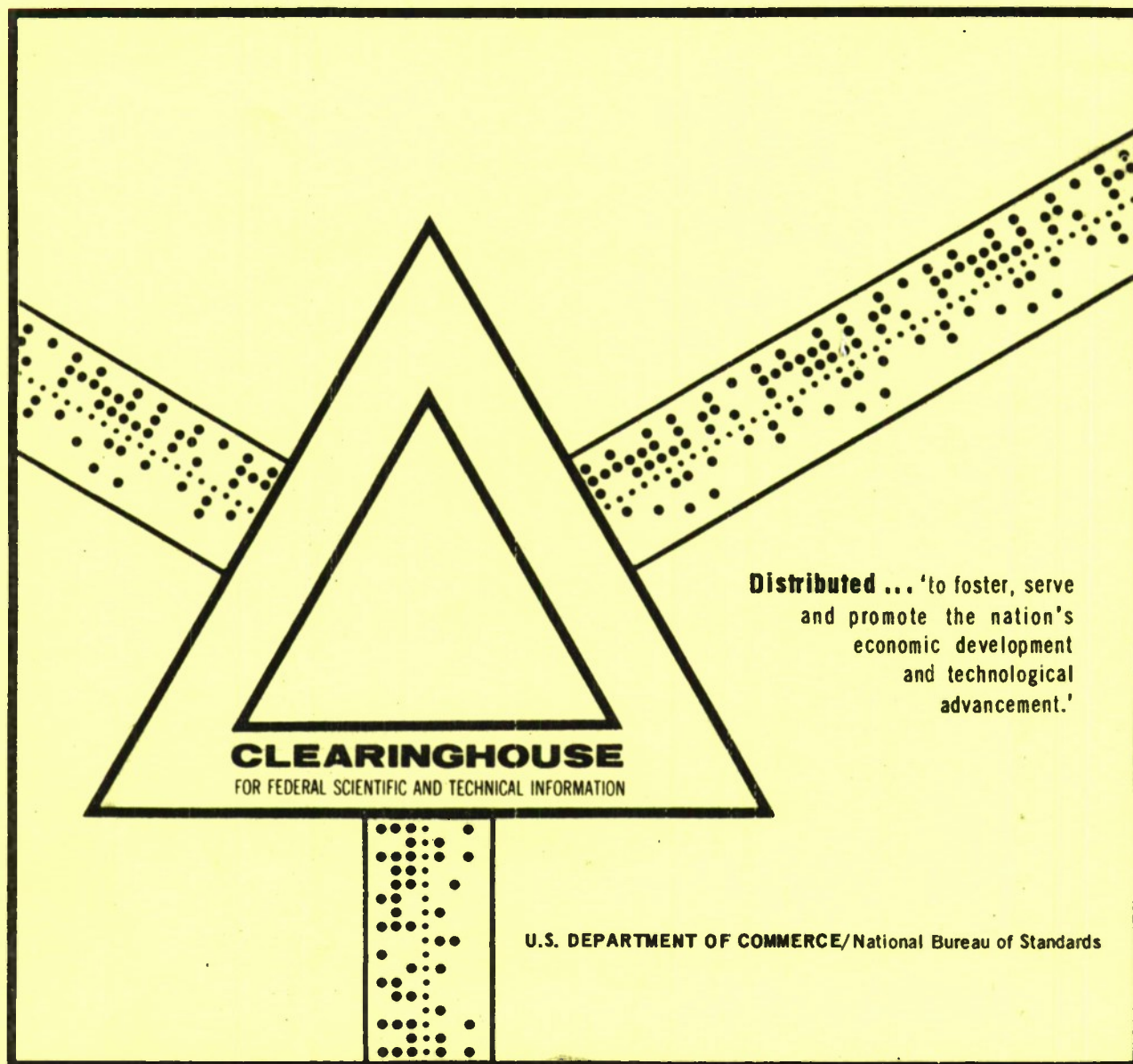


GERMANIUM MICROWAVE SWITCHING TRANSISTOR

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Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Lexington, Massachusetts

20 September 1963



AD 706 857

FINAL REPORT
ON
GERMANIUM MICROWAVE SWITCHING TRANSISTOR
TO
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
LINCOLN LABORATORY

C-00949

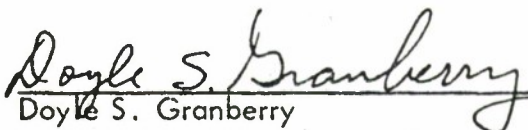
September 20, 1963


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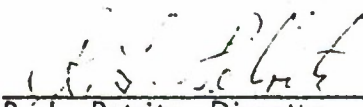
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Final Report
on
GERMANIUM MICROWAVE SWITCHING TRANSISTOR
to
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Lincoln Laboratory


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September 20, 1963

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I. INTRODUCTION

Texas Instruments has completed a program under Lincoln Laboratory Order No. C-00949 to improve the germanium microwave switching transistor developed under previous contracts with Lincoln Laboratory. The principal objective was to materially reduce base resistance, r_b , while maintaining or slightly increasing the high cut-off frequency, f_T . Early stages of the work under this order were described in an Interim Report,¹ and this final report describes the total work and the results obtained.

Accepted for the Air Force
Franklin C. Hudson
Chief, Lincoln Laboratory Office

II. DESIGN APPROACH

The fundamental approach used in this work was to develop suitable three-stripe geometry (emitter in the center with two outside base stripes) thus reducing base resistance. This approach was outlined in detail in TI's proposal to Lincoln Laboratory dated 29 December 1962.

III. OBJECTIVE SPECIFICATIONS

Table I lists the objective specifications.

Table I

OBJECTIVE SPECIFICATIONS

| <u>PARAMETER</u> | <u>CONDITIONS</u> | <u>LIMITS</u> |
|------------------|---|-----------------|
| BV_{cbo} | 100 μ a | 10 v min |
| BV_{ebo} | 100 μ a | 1 v min |
| BV_{CEO} | 15 ma | 3 v min |
| h_{FE} | $V_{CE} = 1$ v, $I_C = 10$ ma | 20 min |
| h_{FE} | $V_{CE} = 1$ v, $I_C = 50$ ma | 20 min |
| I_{CBO} | 3 v | 5 μ a min |
| τ_s | $I_C = 30$ ma, $I_B \cong 3$ ma | 20 ns max |
| C_{TE} | $V_{EB} = 0.5$ v | 1.5 pf max |
| C_{OB} | $V_{CB} = 2.5$ v | 1.5 pf max |
| f_T | $V_{CB} = 2.5$ v $I_C = 10$ ma and $I_C = 50$ ma and $I_C = 80$ ma | 3 kmc min |
| r_b' | $I_C = 10$ ma $V_{CB} = 2.5$ v | 40 Ω max |

IV. TECHNICAL DISCUSSION

The base resistance, r_b' , of a switching transistor is important because this resistance increases the input signal voltage required to drive the transistor. Calculation of r_b' for the mesa transistor described in this report, with three-stripe geometry, can be approximated by:^{2,3}

$$r_b' = \frac{\rho_s' S}{12 L} + \frac{\rho_s S_1}{2 L} = 31.7 \text{ ohms}$$

where

ρ_s' = sheet resistivity under emitter = 900 ohms/square

ρ_s = sheet resistivity outside the emitter = 40 ohms/square

S = emitter width = .5 mil

S_1 = space between contact stripes = .5 mil

L = length of contact stripe = 1.5 mils

This resistance, 31.7 ohms, can be compared to the values actually obtained in this program by referring to Fig. 1, a distribution chart for the state-of-the-art samples. The agreement between theory and practice is gratifying, considering that the sheet resistances ρ_s' and ρ_s are not known with good accuracy. The value assumed for ρ_s' , 900 ohms, is taken from a Gummel⁴ measurement, and this type of measurement is now open to some question (although in this case no better method is known). The value for ρ_s , 40 ohms, was obtained by doubling the value measured just after vapor diffusion. It is assumed that the sheet resistance approximately doubles during subsequent etching. This has been verified to some extent in simple etch tests on diffused germanium slices, but is by no means certain.

In making a transistor to meet the r_b' and other requirements of this program, the geometry shown in Fig. 2 was used. This geometry is achieved by using a metal mask to evaporate pairs of interleaved emitter and base stripes as shown in Fig. 3. The extra emitter stripe is later removed during the mesa etch. Figure 3 also includes a photograph of a completed transistor. The process for making the transistor is shown in flow chart, Fig. 4.

The cut-off frequency, f_T , of a microwave switching transistor is of the utmost importance. The reason is that the circuit load resistances must be kept low at high frequencies and this limits the voltage gain. It is essential therefore to have current gain, and this requires a high f_T .

Calculations for f_T were given in the work under a previous MIT contract,⁵ and need not be repeated here because the base layers were almost the same as in the current program. Subsequent increases in f_T which have been achieved were primarily due to improvements in epitaxial material and to reducing the collector resistivity. Alloy and diffusion temperatures have not been changed very significantly in this program. Predicted values of f_T obtained by calculation are higher by a factor of two than the values actually achieved, but even this agreement is better than could be obtained a few years earlier.

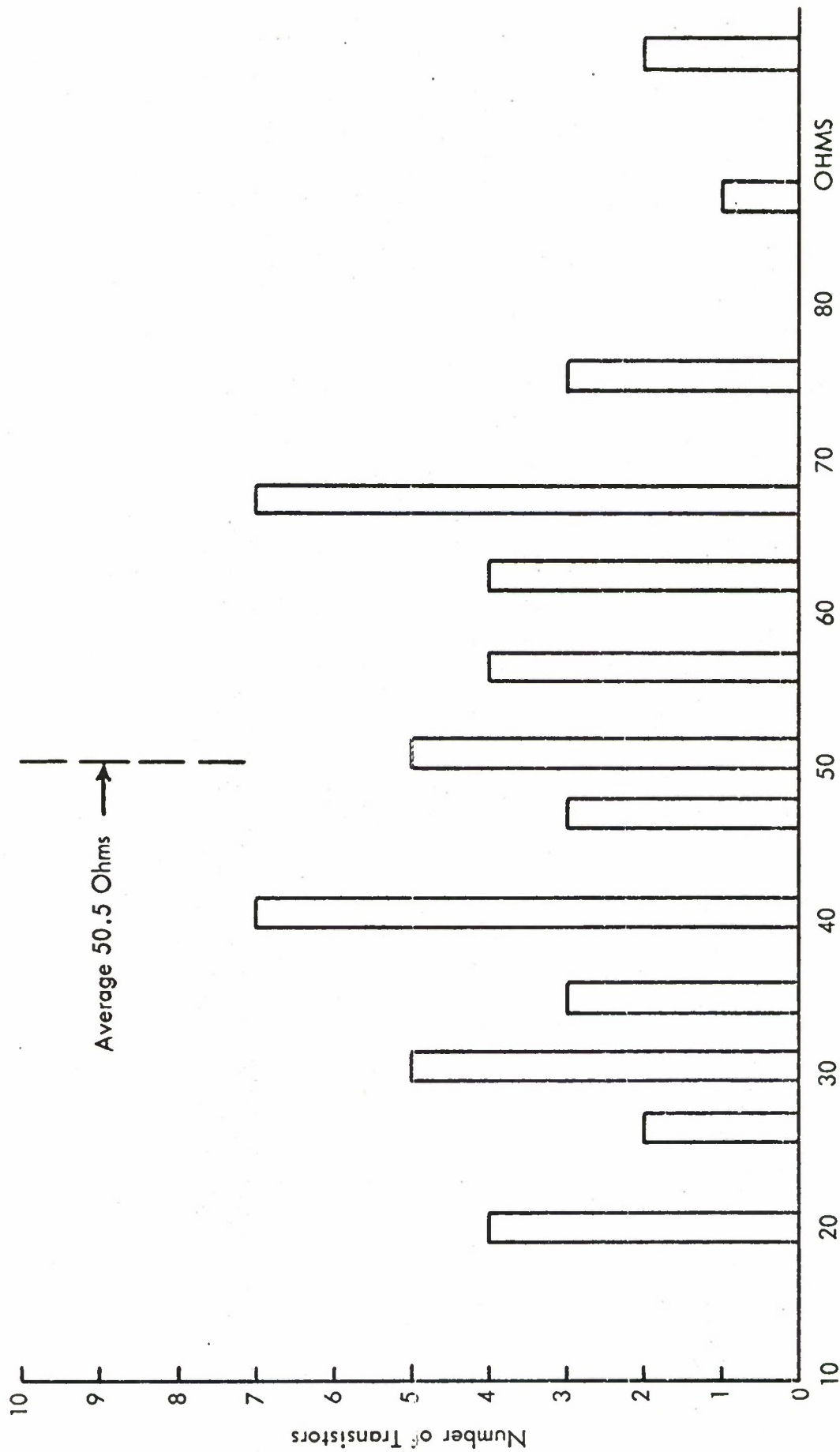
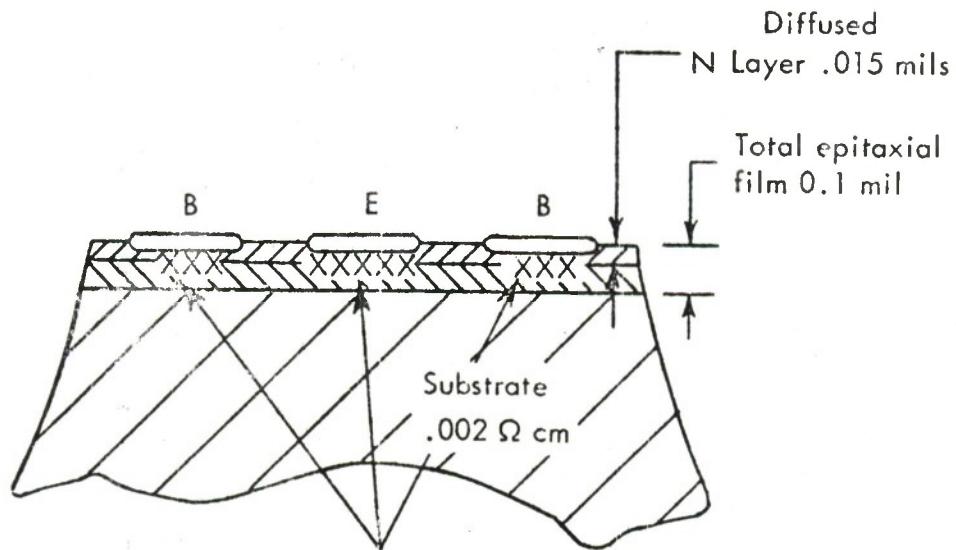


Fig. 1. Distribution of Base Resistance, $r_{b'}$

Fig. 2
Geometry of Three-Stripe Transistor



A better understanding
of the diffusion front
geometry is under study

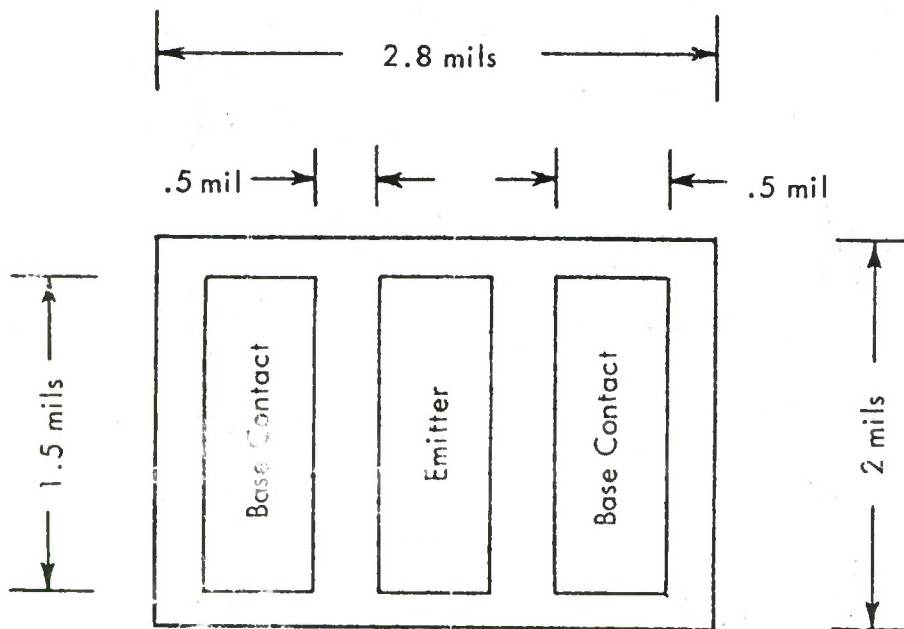


FIGURE 3

METAL MASK WITH
OPENINGS FOR
EVAPORATION



EMITTER
BASE

GERMANIUM SLICE WITH
EVAPORATED EMITTER &
BASE CONTACT STRIPES



A. Composite photo of portion of metal evaporation mask and resulting 4-stripe pattern on germanium. (One emitter stripe is later removed in mesa etching)



B. Photograph of bonded 3-stripe transistor

Figure 4 FLOW CHART

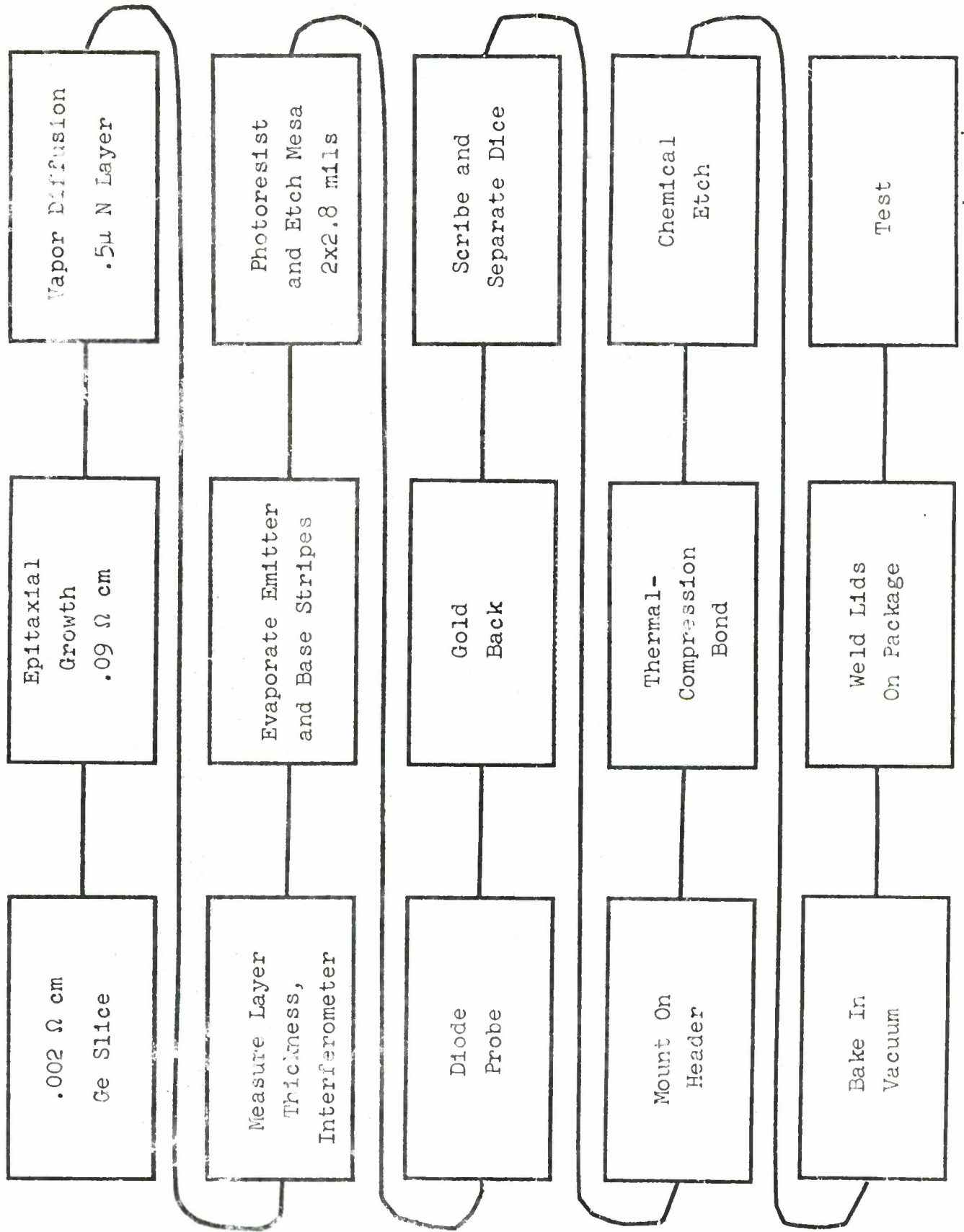


Figure 5 gives the f_T distribution for all the state-of-the-art samples submitted under the current program. Figure 6 is a plot of $1/f_T$ versus $1/l_E$ and gives the intrinsic f_T or f_{Ti} of one of these devices. For this particular transistor f_{Ti} is 3 gc.

In the area of technical problems, thermal compression bonding has been developed to the point of being usable, but it continues to limit repeatability and virtually prohibits further size reductions in the geometry. This bonding operation, using pressures on the order of 50,000 lbs/sq in often damages the half-micron base layers, causing shorts or leakage in the collector junctions as well as the emitter junctions. An approach for getting away from this problem has now been found and this will play an important part in our future plans for microwave transistors.

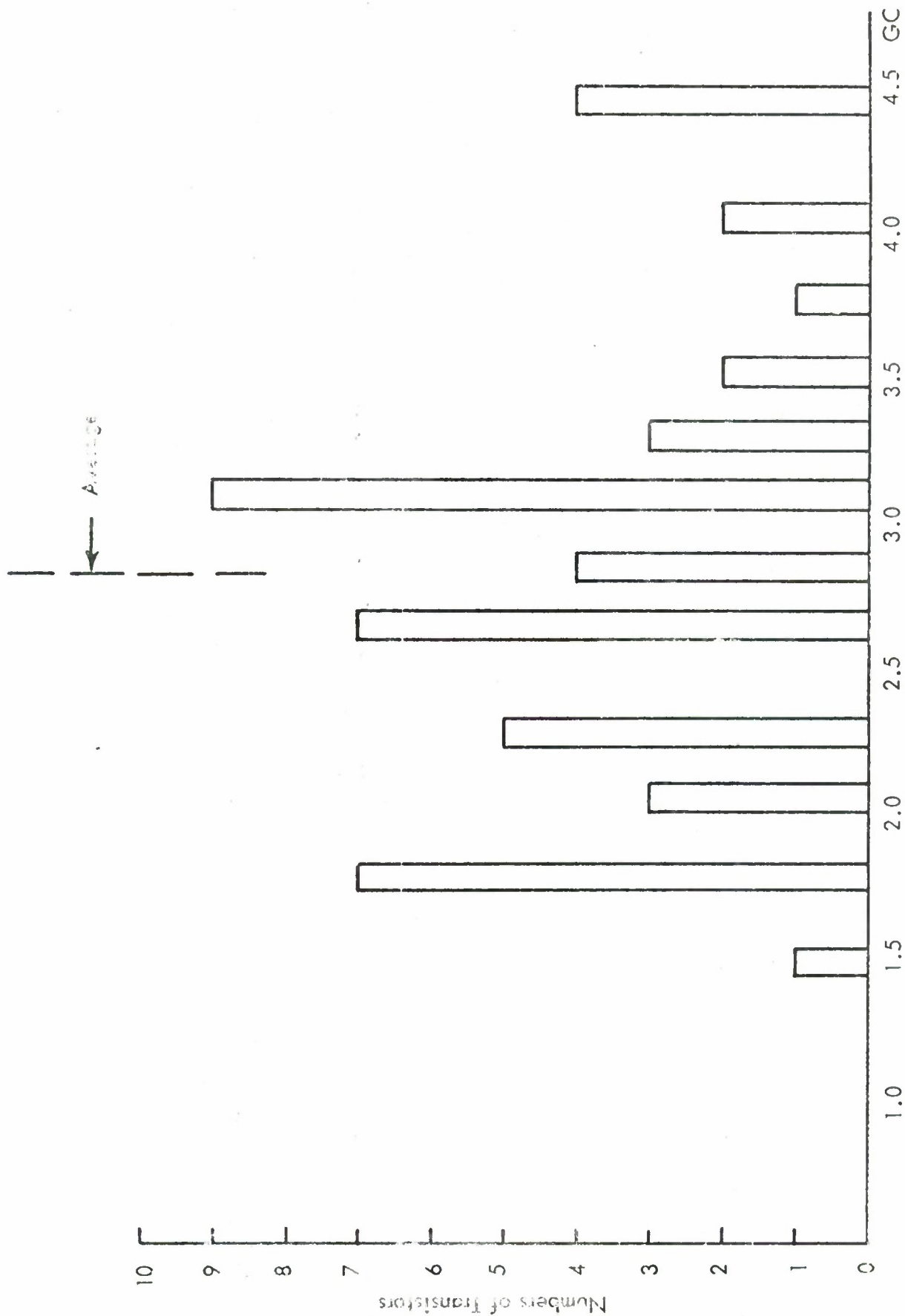
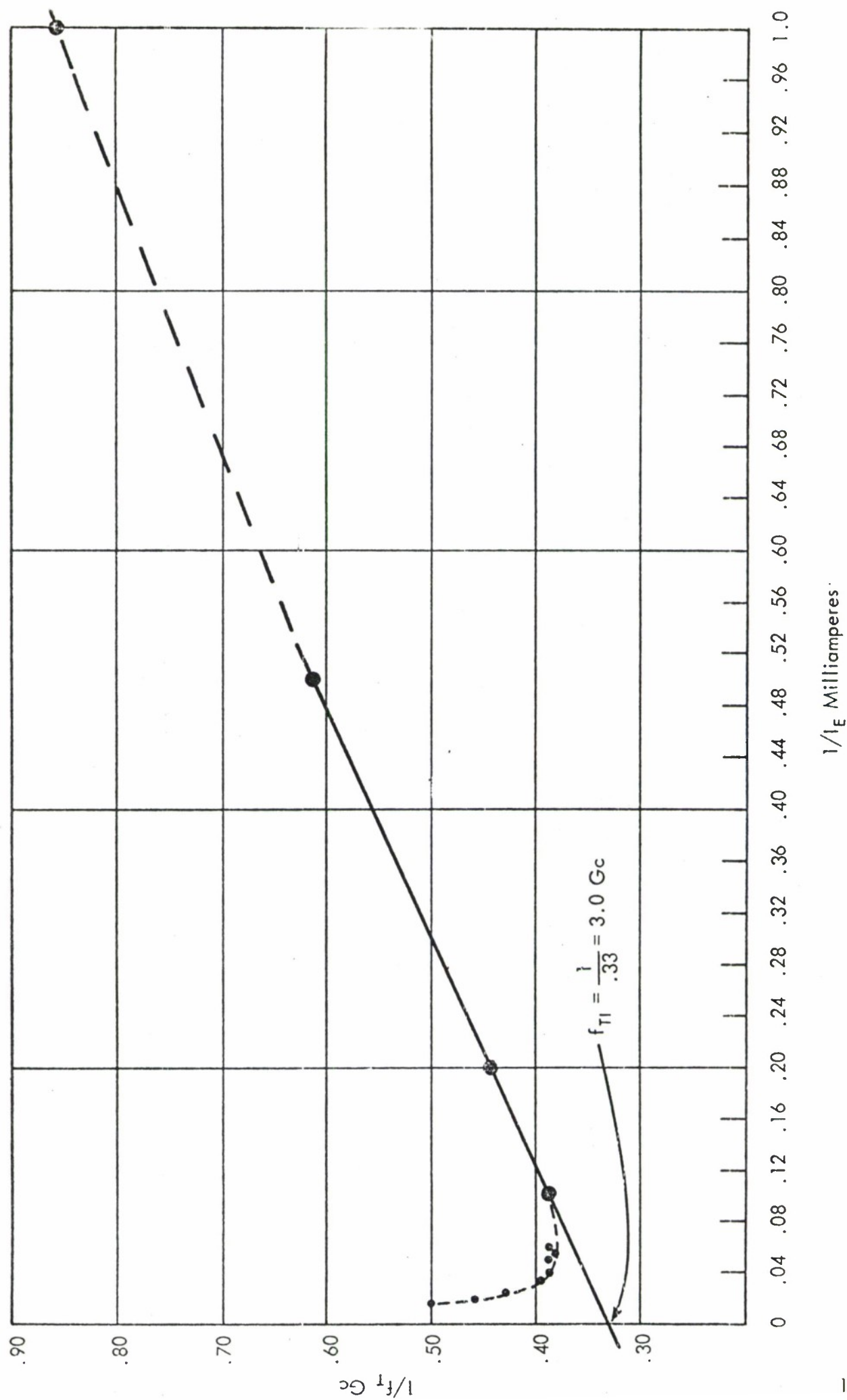


Fig. 5. Distribution of Cut Off Frequency, f_T ($I_C = 10 \text{ MA}$, $V_{CB} = 2.5\text{V}$)

Fig. 6
GERMANIUM MICROWAVE SWITCHING TRANSISTOR
Intrinsic Cut-off Frequency f_{T1}



V. TRANSISTOR TEST RESULTS

Details of test results on the fifty transistors submitted to Lincoln Laboratory as state-of-the-art samples are shown in Tables 2 through 6. Results from the r_b' and f_T work have already been mentioned (Figs. 1 and 5).

Some special measurements have also been made in evaluating this new transistor.

Figure 7 is a circuit schematic of a 200 mc binary system using these transistors, indicative of the high frequency capability of the devices. Wave forms are also included in this figure.

Figure 8 shows a circuit schematic and a photograph of the jig used for amplifying extremely short pulses of 2 nanoseconds total length. Figure 9 is a photograph of the input and output pulse obtained in this 2 nsec application.

TABLE 2

Test Data on First Lot of State-of-the-art Samples

| | 2-679 B6P4 | 4-679 B6P4 | 9-680 A | 9-679 A6 | 9-679 B6P4 | 11-679 A | 12-679 B4 | 14-679 B4 | 15-679 B6P4 | 17-679 A |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|
| $BV_{CBO}(100 \mu a) V$ | 16.0 | 12.0 | 7.2 | 8.0 | 16.5 | 12.6 | 7.2 | 17.0 | 16.0 | 9.5 |
| $BV_{EBO}(100 \mu a) V$ | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.1 | .99 | .86 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.2 |
| $BV_{CEO}(15 ma) V$ | 6.8 | 6.6 | 5.0 | 7.5 | 5.8 | 5.0 | 3.4 | 5.5 | 7.4 | 6.0 |
| $I_{CBO}(3 v) \mu a$ | .2 | .1 | 5.0 | 2.0 | .2 | .1 | .1 | .1 | .1 | 3.0 |
| $h_{FE}(1 v, 10 ma)$ | 83.0 | 91.0 | 250 | 22 | 58.0 | 62.0 | 59.0 | 200.0 | 83.0 | 42.0 |
| $h_{FE}(1 v, 50 ma)$ | 192.0 | 166.0 | 310 | 33.0 | 156.0 | 100.0 | 142.0 | 450.0 | 185.0 | 89.0 |
| $V_{CE(sat)} I_C = 10ma$ | | | | | | | | | | |
| $I_B = 1.0ma$ | .10 | .09 | .09 | .11 | .10 | .13 | .09 | .09 | .11 | .14 |
| $V_{CE(sat)} I_C = 50ma$ | | | | | | | | | | |
| $I_B = 5.0ma$ | .17 | .18 | .19 | .20 | .19 | .40 | .17 | .17 | .18 | .25 |
| $V_{BE} I_C = 10ma$ | | | | | | | | | | |
| $I_B = 1.0ma$ | .46 | .46 | .46 | .44 | .48 | .51 | .47 | .48 | .47 | .51 |
| $V_{BE} I_C = 50ma$ | | | | | | | | | | |
| $I_B = 5.0ma$ | .56 | .61 | .61 | .62 | .66 | .82 | .64 | .63 | .57 | .69 |
| τ_s 30 ma, 3.0ma, Ns | 22 | 30 | 30 | 19 | 36 | 28 | 32 | 30 | 21 | 18 |
| $C_{OB} 2.5 v$ | 2.1 | 1.87 | 1.66 | 1.89 | 2.16 | 1.54 | 1.44 | 1.19 | 2.14 | 2.23 |
| f_T 400 mc 2.5V, 10ma | 1.48 | 1.76 | 3.14 | 2.22 | 1.78 | 3.36 | 2.04 | 2.0 | 1.72 | 1.76 |
| f_T 400 mc 2.5 v, 50ma | 1.28 | 1.41 | 2.24 | 1.57 | 1.30 | 2.35 | 1.44 | 1.65 | 1.46 | 1.46 |
| NF 200 mc 2.5 v, 2 ma, db | 2.2 | 3.2 | 3.5 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 5.0 | 2.9 | 3.5 |
| $h_{FE} 1 v, 2 ma$ | 57.0 | 57.0 | 166.0 | 9.3 | 25.0 | 33.0 | 33.0 | 110.0 | 50.0 | 20.0 |
| f_T 2.5 v, 2 ma | 1.03 | 1.15 | 1.70 | 1.37 | 1.25 | 1.76 | 1.41 | 1.35 | 1.15 | 1.3 |
| r_{ib} , Calculated | 18.0 | 38.0 | 50.0 | 30.0 | 39.0 | 58.0 | 61.0 | 87.0 | 30.0 | 34.0 |

TABLE 3

Test Data on Second Lot of State-of-the-art Samples

| | <u>1- 734AA</u> | <u>2- 734AB</u> | <u>7- 727B</u> | <u>10- 732BB</u> | <u>11- 679B9</u> |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| BV_{CBO} (100 μ A) V | 15.0 | 16.0 | 1.3 | 3.2 | 11.0 |
| Avalanche Breakdown, Volts | 14.5 | 16.0 | 17.0 | 16.2 | 15.0 |
| BV_{EBO} (100 μ A) V | .42 | .72 | .52 | .80 | 1.6 |
| BV_{CEC} (15 MA) V | 5.8 | 6.0 | 4.5 | 5.5 | 5.6 |
| I_{CBO} (3V) μ A | .1 | .1 | 250 | 9.0 | .2 |
| h_{FE} (1V, 10MA) | 50 | 36.7 | 66.6 | 28.5 | 37 |
| h_{FE} (1V, 50 MA) | 120 | 122 | 166 | 71.5 | 1000 |
| $V_{CE(SAT)}$ $I_C = 10$ MA $I_B = 1.0$ MA | .08 | .08 | .07 | .12 | .07 |
| $V_{CE(SAT)}$ $I_C = 50$ MA $I_B = 5.0$ MA | .16 | .15 | .15 | .20 | .15 |
| V_{BE} $I_C = 10$ MA $I_B = 1.0$ MA | .58 | .47 | .45 | .48 | .46 |
| V_{BE} $I_C = 50$ MA $I_B = 5.0$ MA | .66 | .61 | .62 | .67 | .60 |
| τ_s (30 MA, 3MA) Ns | 33 | 38 | 28 | 23 | 35 |
| C_{OB} (2.5 V) PF | 1.04 | .95 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.21 |
| f_T (400 MC, 2.5V, 10 MA) Gc | 2.3 | 2.58 | 4.45 | 2.72 | 2.07 |
| f_T (400 MC, 2.5V, 50 MA) Gc | 1.41 | 2.52 | 3.06 | 3.28 | 1.45 |

DATA FOR r_b'

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| NF (200 MC, 2.5V, 2 MA) DB | 5.2 | 3.1 | 4.5 | 4.4 | 4.4 |
| h_{FE} (1V, 2 MA) | 20 | 10.5 | 28.6 | 11.1 | 400 |
| f_T (2.5 V, 2 MA) Gc | 1.23 | 1.46 | 2.38 | 1.44 | 1.53 |
| r_b' (Calculated) OHMS | 69 | 21 | 36 | 40 | 74 |

Table 4

MICROWAVE SWITCHING TRANSISTORS

| Transistor # | 2-748 AA1 | 3-748 AA | 4-748 AA | 6-748 AA1 | 6-748 AA1P2 | 8-748 AA1 | 8-748 AA | 9-738 AA | 13-748 AB | 20-734 AA2 |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| $BV_{CBO}(100 \mu a) V$ | 13.0 | 12.4 | 18.0 | 8.8 | 15.5 | 15.8 | 16.8 | 7.0 | 9.0 | 15.5 |
| $BV_{EBO}(100 \mu a) V$ | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.4 | .85 | 1.0 | .75 |
| $BV_{CEO}(15 ma) V$ | 4.7 | 4.0 | 7.0 | 6.5 | 4.2 | 6.4 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.8 | 6.5 |
| $I_{CBO}(3 V) \mu a$ | .5 | .1 | .1 | 15 | .1 | .1 | .1 | .2 | 1.0 | .1 |
| $h_{FE}(1 V, 10 ma)$ | 125 | 330 | 40 | 56 | 270 | 33 | 435 | 140 | 660 | 28 |
| $h_{FE}(1 V, 50 ma)$ | 250 | 620 | 100 | 110 | 500 | 94 | 590 | 310 | 660 | 50 |
| $V_{CE(SAT)} I_C = 10 ma$ | .12 | .08 | .10 | .13 | .07 | .12 | .08 | .08 | .09 | .14 |
| $I_B = 1.0 ma$ | | | | | | | | | | |
| $V_{CE(SAT)} I_C = 50 ma$ | .21 | .18 | .16 | .25 | .20 | .27 | .17 | .17 | .17 | .22 |
| $I_B = 5.0 ma$ | | | | | | | | | | |
| $V_{BE} I_C = 10 ma$ | .51 | .46 | .46 | .49 | .47 | .52 | .48 | .48 | .51 | .47 |
| $I_B = 1.0 ma$ | | | | | | | | | | |
| $V_{BE} I_C = 50 ma$ | .67 | .60 | .60 | .65 | .65 | .62 | .67 | .61 | .67 | .62 |
| $I_B = 5.0 ma$ | | | | | | | | | | |
| $s(30 ma, 3 ma)Ns$ | 37 | 53 | 60 | 27 | 27 | 19 | 46 | 23 | 21 | 18 |
| $C_{Og}(2.5 V)PF$ | 1.2 | .62 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.33 | .57 | 1.22 | 1.2 | 1.0 | .86 |
| $f_T(400 mc, 2.5 V, 10 ma)Gc$ | 3.1 | 2.61 | 2.58 | 3.1 | 2.0 | 2.55 | 2.89 | 4.0 | 4.08 | 2.8 |
| $f_T(400 mc, 2.5 V, 50 ma)Gc$ | 2.32 | 2.25 | 1.72 | 1.65 | 1.55 | 2.04 | 1.72 | 3.28 | 2.24 | 2.1 |
| Data for r_b' | | | | | | | | | | |
| $NF(200 mc, 2.5 V, 2 ma)DB$ | 4.2 | 4.1 | 4.5 | 3.8 | 4.6 | 5.8 | 3.7 | 5.4 | 5.0 | 2.8 |
| $h_{FE}(1 V, 2 ma)$ | 160 | 220 | 12 | 25 | 220 | 10 | 200 | 80 | 400 | 12 |
| $f_T(2.5 V, 2 ma) Gc$ | 2.27 | 1.89 | 1.76 | 2.22 | 1.3 | 1.68 | 2.07 | 2.2 | 2.64 | 2.0 |
| r_b' (calculated) Ohms | 67 | 66 | 44 | 43 | 76 | 67 | 57 | 97 | 95 | 22 |
| g^* parameter | .01 | .01 | .09 | .051 | .017 | .1 | .01 | .018 | .0064 | .088 |

$$* g \text{ parameter} = \frac{I_{CBO}}{I_C} + \frac{1}{1 + h_{FE}} + \frac{f}{f_c}$$

Table 5

MICROWAVE SWITCHING TRANSISTORS

| Transistor # | 2-737 BA | 12-737 BA | 10-732 AA | 9-732 BA4 | 3-773 B | 11-773 B | 10-734 AB1P2 | 3-738 AA | 4-738 AA | 1-744 AA1 |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| $BV_{CBO}(100 \mu a) V$ | 15.8 | 17.0 | 5.6 | 14.5 | 11.0 | 17.5 | 10.0 | 2.9 | 9.8 | 6.0 |
| $BV_{EBO}(100 \mu a) V$ | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.6 | .75 | .92 | .45 | .85 | 1.2 | .92 | .93 |
| $BV_{CEO}(1.5 ma) V$ | 3.7 | 7.5 | 3.4 | 3.8 | 5.2 | 7.8 | 5.5 | 4.5 | 4.9 | 4.7 |
| $I_{CBO}(2.5 V) \mu a$ | .1 | .1 | 18 | .1 | .2 | .1 | .1 | .60 | 21.0 | 7.0 |
| $h_{FE}(1 V, 10 ma)$ | 270 | 32.2 | 250 | 250 | 500 | 45.5 | 50 | 83.5 | 69 | 62.5 |
| $h_{FE}(1 V, 50 ma)$ | 625 | 59 | 417 | 385 | 832 | 100 | 125 | 185 | 156 | 143 |
| $V_{CE(SAT)} I_C = 10 ma$ | .07 | .09 | .08 | .07 | .07 | .09 | .08 | .09 | .09 | .10 |
| $I_B = 1.0 ma$ | | | | | | | | | | |
| $V_{CE(SAT)} I_C = 50 ma$ | .15 | .18 | .18 | .14 | .18 | .2 | .14 | .17 | .18 | .19 |
| $I_B = 5.0 ma$ | | | | | | | | | | |
| $V_{BE} I_C = 10 ma$ | .45 | .44° | .45 | .45 | .45 | .46 | .46 | .45 | .46 | .48 |
| $I_B = 1.0 ma$ | | | | | | | | | | |
| $V_{BE} I_C = 50 ma$ | .60 | .57 | .61 | .60 | .59 | .64 | .58 | .59 | .62 | .68 |
| $I_B = 5.0 ma$ | | | | | | | | | | |
| $s(30 ma, 3 ma)Ns$ | 24 | 24 | 23 | 28 | 20 | 22 | 36 | 16 | 15 | 10 |
| $COB(2.5 V)PF$ | 1.16 | 1.06 | 1.36 | 1.21 | .763 | .584 | 1.13 | 1.27 | 1.07 | 1.456 |
| $f_T(400 mc, 2.5 V, 10 ma)Gc$ | 3.78 | 2.725 | 3.55 | 3.1 | 3.24 | 3.06 | 3.28 | 4.52 | 4.45 | 2.86 |
| $f_T(400 mc, 2.5 V, 50 ma)Gc$ | 3.64 | 2.46 | 3.36 | 2.76 | 2.64 | 1.76 | 3.36 | 4.08 | 4.045 | 2.76 |
| Data for r_b' | | | | | | | | | | |
| $NF(200 mc, 2.5 V, 2 ma)DB$ | 4.9 | 3.2 | 4.4 | 3.1 | 3.9 | 4.45 | 2.7 | 3.9 | 4.7 | 4.2 |
| $h_{FE}(1 V, 2 ma)$ | 125 | 18.2 | 166 | 143 | 286 | 18.2 | 25.0 | 40.0 | 40.0 | 33.3 |
| $f_T(2.5 V, 2 ma)Gc$ | 2.045 | 1.608 | 2.0 | 1.745 | 2.320 | 1.865 | 1.72 | 2.27 | 2.40 | 1.78 |
| r_b' (calculated) Ohms | 77 | 30 | 68 | 42 | 63 | 52 | 25 | 41 | 63 | 55 |

Table 6

MICROWAVE SWITCHING TRANSISTORS

| Transistor # | 4-744 AA10 | 2-792 B20 | 4-744 AA22 | 8-744 AA22 | 5-737 BA7 | 4-792 B7 | 8-744 AA4 | 11-744 AA4 | 12-744 AA4 | 8-792 B | 4-744 AA1 | 14-734 AB3P3 | 1-734 AB3P4 | 9-738 AA1P1 | 21-7 AB11 |
|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| $V_{CBO}(100\mu a)V$ | 13.0 | 16.2 | 7.0 | 11.0 | 17.0 | 7.9 | 8.5 | 13.9 | 15.0 | 17.0 | 12.0 | 7.0 | 15.5 | 5.6 | 3.9 |
| $V_{EBO}(100\mu a)V$ | 1.2 | .64 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.4 | .80 | 1.3 | 1.2 | .95 | .68 | 1.2 | .82 | .69 | 1.3 | .87 |
| $V_{CEO}(15ma)V$ | 3.9 | 7.7 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 5.4 | 6.3 | 4.6 | 4.4 | 5.1 | 8.0 | 3.8 | 4.8 | 6.3 | 4.3 | 6.2 |
| $I_{CBO}(3V)\mu a$ | .1 | .1 | 8.0 | 2.5 | .1 | 3.0 | 3.0 | .1 | .1 | .1 | .1 | 7.0 | .1 | 30. | 70. |
| $h_{FE}(1V., 10ma)$ | 200 | 20 | 167 | 142 | 100 | 25 | 77 | 222 | 77 | 20 | 200 | 83 | 27 | 100 | 28 |
| $h_{FE}(1V., 50ma)$ | 357 | 26 | 278 | 294 | 200 | 55 | 166 | 357 | 167 | 33 | 420 | 200 | 83 | 200 | 81 |
| $V_{CE}(SAT), I_C=10ma$ | .09 | .16 | .10 | .09 | .08 | .14 | .11 | .09 | .11 | .15 | .10 | .13 | .13 | .12 | .12 |
| $I_B=1.0ma$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| $V_{CE}(SAT), I_C=50ma$ | .17 | .25 | .19 | .18 | .16 | .22 | .19 | .15 | .19 | .22 | .20 | .20 | .21 | .24 | .20 |
| $I_B=5.0ma$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| $V_{BE}, I_C=10ma$ | .46 | .50 | .46 | .47 | .49 | .51 | .49 | .48 | .51 | .52 | .47 | .51 | .54 | .48 | .52 |
| $I_B=1.0ma$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| $V_{BE}, I_C=50ma$ | .62 | .66 | .59 | .62 | .64 | .66 | .67 | .64 | .68 | .67 | .67 | .67 | .72 | .61 | .70 |
| $I_B=5.0ma$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| $\tau_s(30ma, 3ma)Ns$ | 21 | 12 | 15 | 22 | 43 | 15 | 20 | 50 | 27 | 14 | 18 | 25 | 30 | 15 | 23 |
| $C_{CB}(2.5V.)PF$ | 1.36 | 1.07 | 1.38 | 1.38 | 1.15 | 1.34 | 1.29 | 1.31 | 1.21 | .88 | 1.38 | 1.17 | 1.12 | 1.01 | 1.07 |
| $f_T(400mc, 2.5V., 10ma)Gc$ | 3.2 | 2.25 | 3.0 | 2.83 | 3.51 | 2.24 | 2.72 | 2.30 | 1.83 | 1.72 | 3.0 | 1.78 | 1.78 | 4.43 | 3.28 |
| $f_T(400mc, 2.5V., 50ma)Gc$ | 3.2 | 1.47 | 2.93 | 2.89 | 2.67 | 1.72 | 2.58 | 2.30 | 1.83 | 1.31 | 3.02 | 1.62 | 1.80 | 4.33 | 3.20 |
| Data for r_b' | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| $NF(200mc, 2.5V., 2ma)DB$ | 3.8 | 3.2 | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 4.8 | 2.7 | 4.1 | 3.9 | 4.3 | 3.4 | 5.5 | 4.5 | 5.3 |
| $h_{FE}(1V., 2ma)$ | 118 | 7.4 | 100 | 74. | 50. | 12.5 | 33. | 143. | 36.4 | 8.0 | 125. | 40. | 7.4 | 67. | 10.5 |
| $f_T(2.5V., 2ma)Gc$ | 1.91 | 1.48 | 1.76 | 1.66 | 2.19 | 1.53 | 1.59 | 1.40 | 1.19 | 1.17 | 1.74 | 1.13 | 1.06 | 2.32 | 1.82 |
| r_b' (calculated) Ohms | 57 | 18 | 46 | 47 | 48 | 32 | 67 | 31 | 51 | 28 | 68 | 36 | 52 | 63 | 50 |

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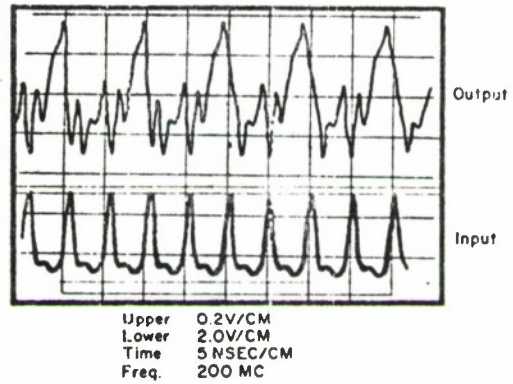
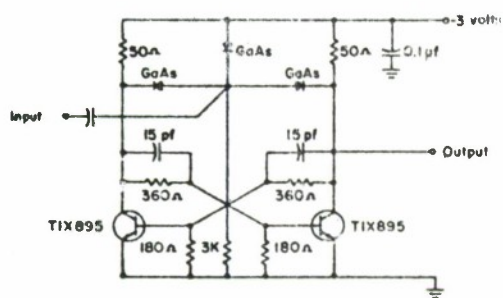
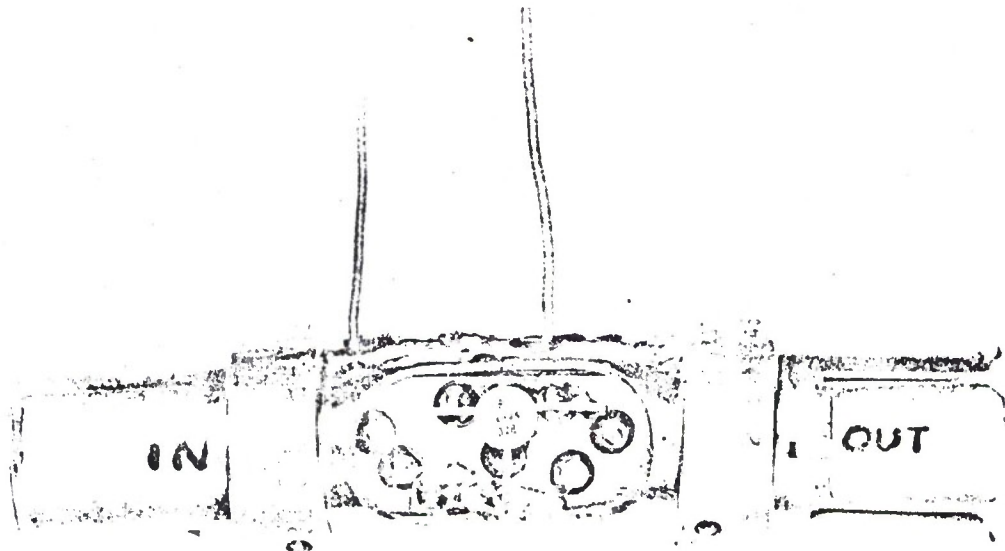
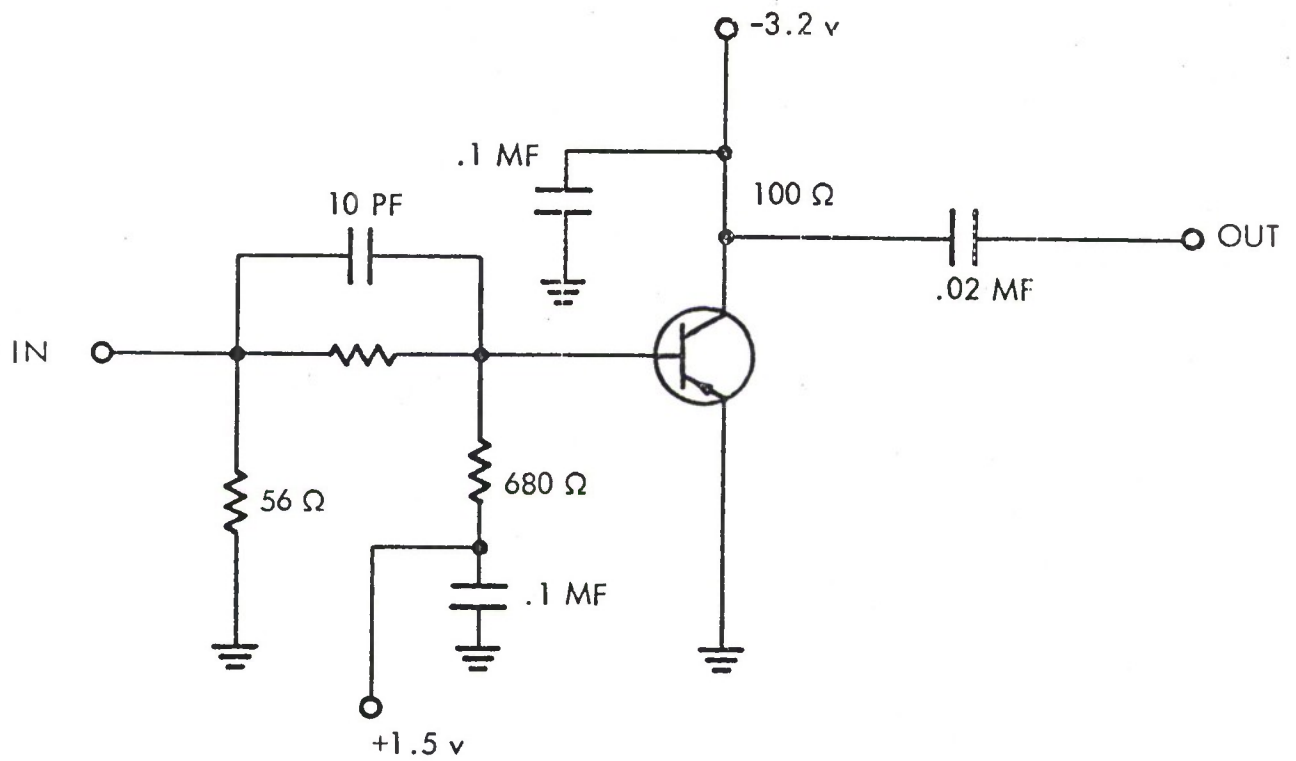


Fig. 7
 200 mc binary circuit and waveforms

FIGURE 8



Jig used to switch 2 nsec pulse with schematic

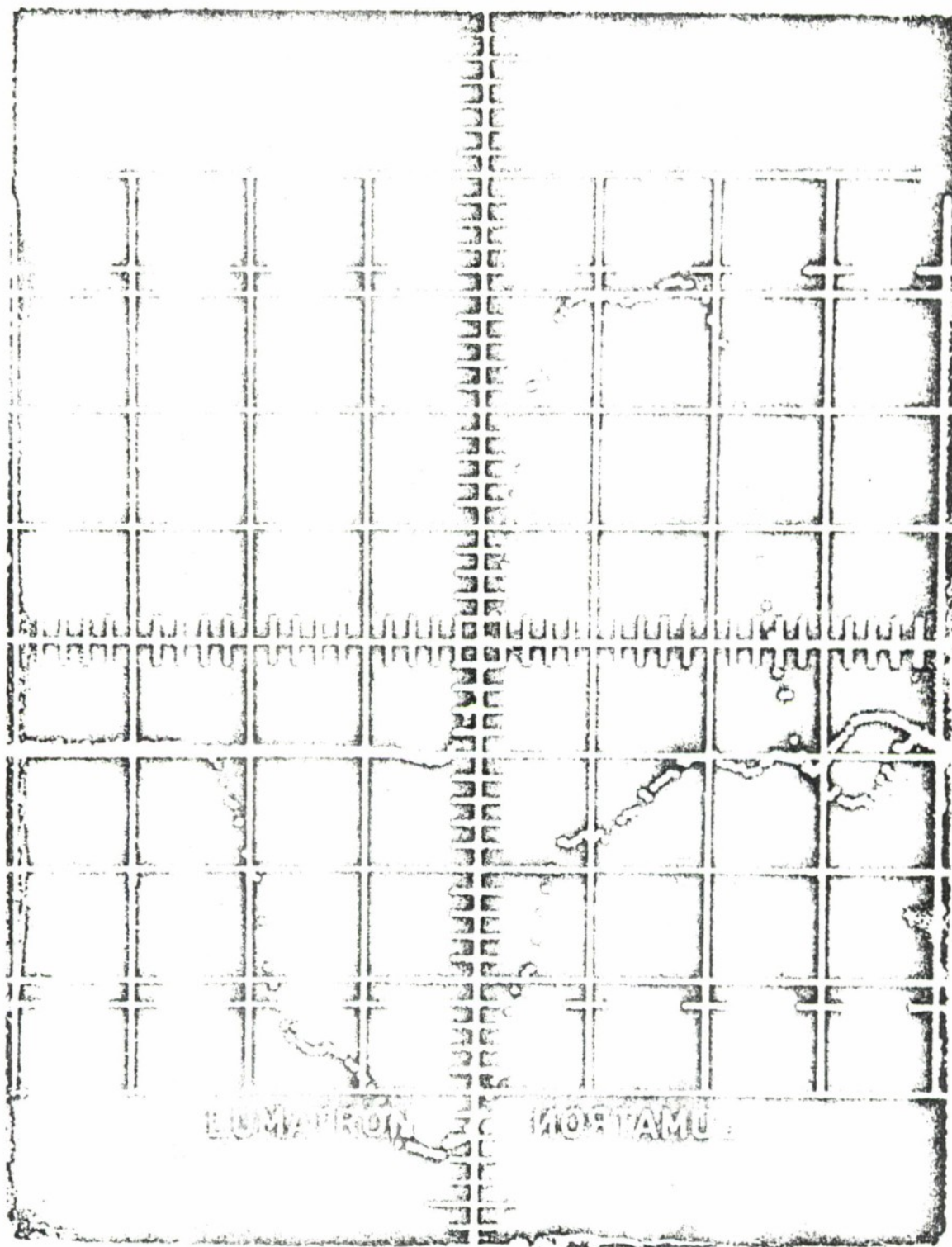


FIGURE 9
Photograph of input and output pulse in 2 ns application

VI. MICROSTRIP PACKAGE

A new package suitable for this and other microwave transistors has been designed with the following objectives:

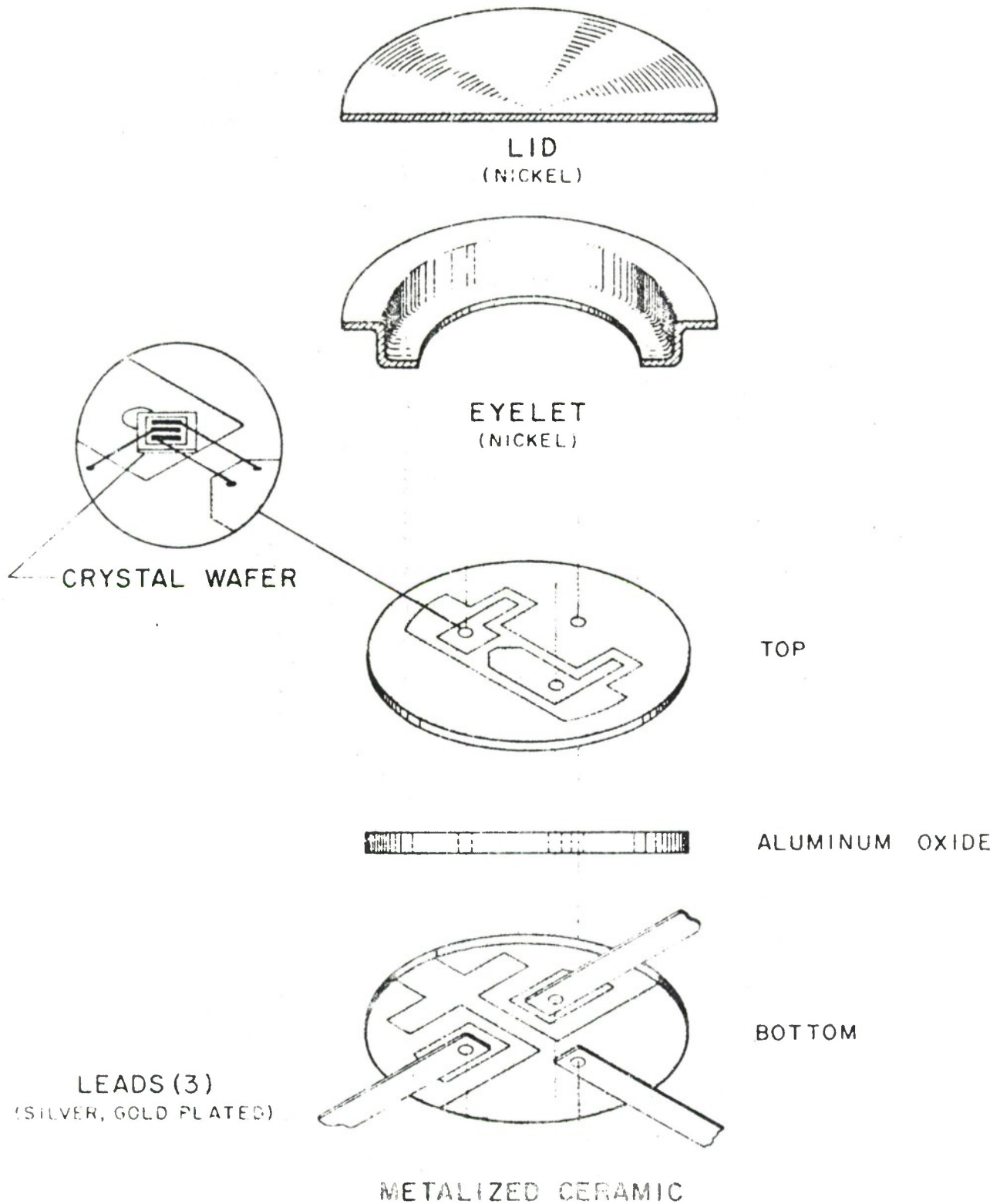
1. Improved isolation between input and output.
2. Minimum series inductance (secured by holding rigidly to a characteristic impedance of 50 ohms).
3. Minimum high frequency loss (by careful matching).
4. Configuration suitable for use in microstrip transmission lines.

In the initial version of the package, the emitter is connected to the outside case in order to minimize emitter inductance, but this feature is not mandatory. Figure 10 shows the construction. The geometry is such that every portion of the internal circuit of the package has a nominal characteristic impedance of 50 ohms.

Evaluation of the new package has been started but is not yet complete. Characteristic impedance is being measured by a pulse technique shown in a block diagram, Fig. 11. Reflections that occur in the 50 ohm transmission line system are viewed on a calibrated sampling oscilloscope. The scope shows the magnitude of the impedance causing the reflection. It is calibrated by simply plugging in a known 75 ohm transmission line and adjusting the gain so that the 25 ohm impedance increment (above the 50 ohm system) produces 5 divisions of deflection or 5 ohms per division. Then the unknown microstrip line (containing the new transistor package) is inserted in place of the calibrating line, and the impedance of the unknown is observed directly.

Figure 12 is a photograph of the oscilloscope response obtained on the first engineering sample package. This shows that the nominal 50 ohm microstrip transmission line used for mounting the package had a characteristic impedance of 47 ohms, and the package sample had a characteristic impedance several ohms less than 47. This first package model had dimensional errors caused by an incorrect silk screen and these dimensional errors account for the low characteristic impedance. New silk screens have been obtained and new engineering samples have been built. These samples are now in process of evaluation. First indications are that the characteristic impedance of the new models is approaching closer to 50 ohms. Other measurements on the new package will include the high frequency losses.

FIGURE 10
50 OHM MICROSTRIP PACKAGE



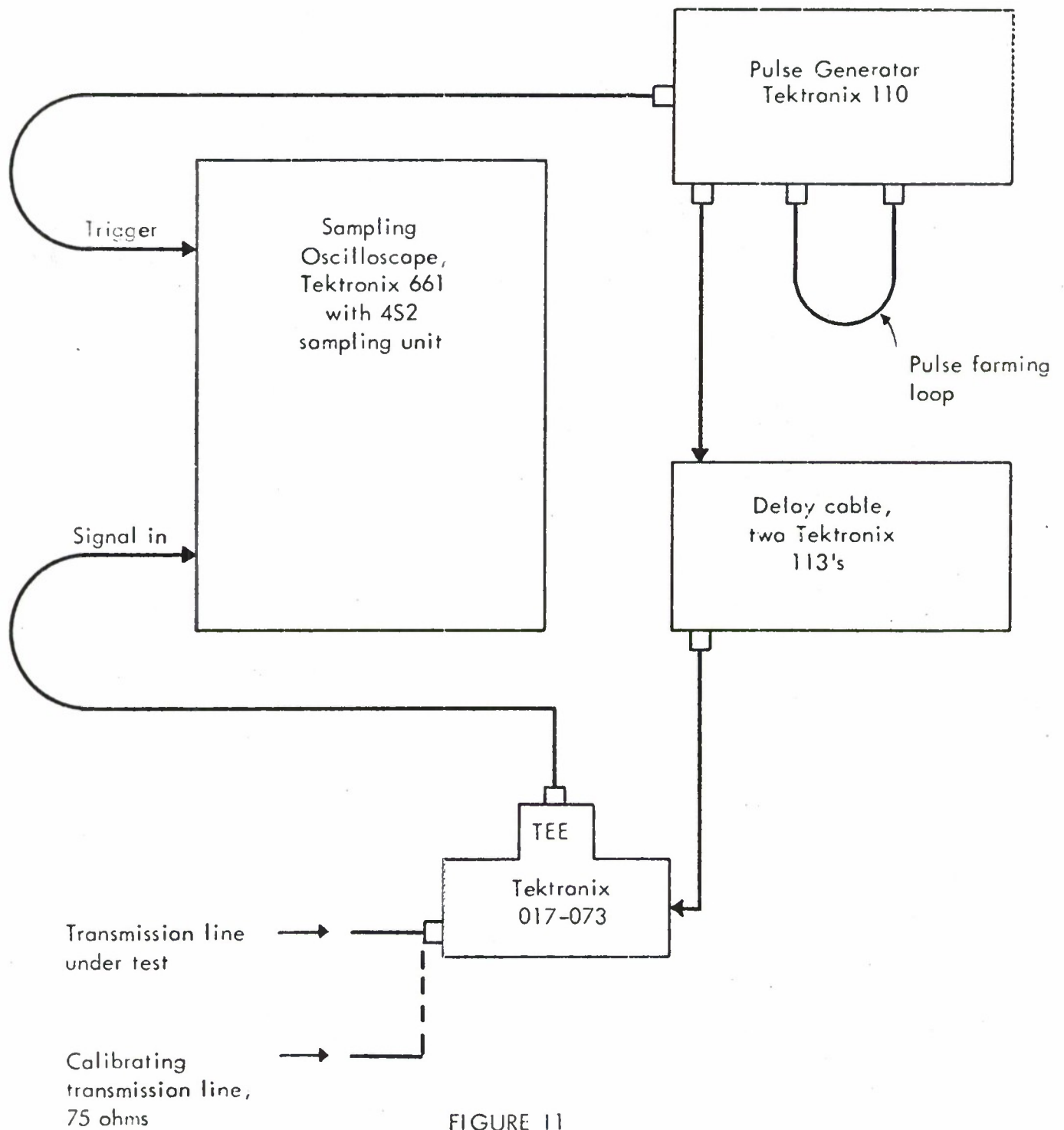


FIGURE 11

Pulse reflection technique for measuring characteristic impedance of microstrip line and microstrip package.

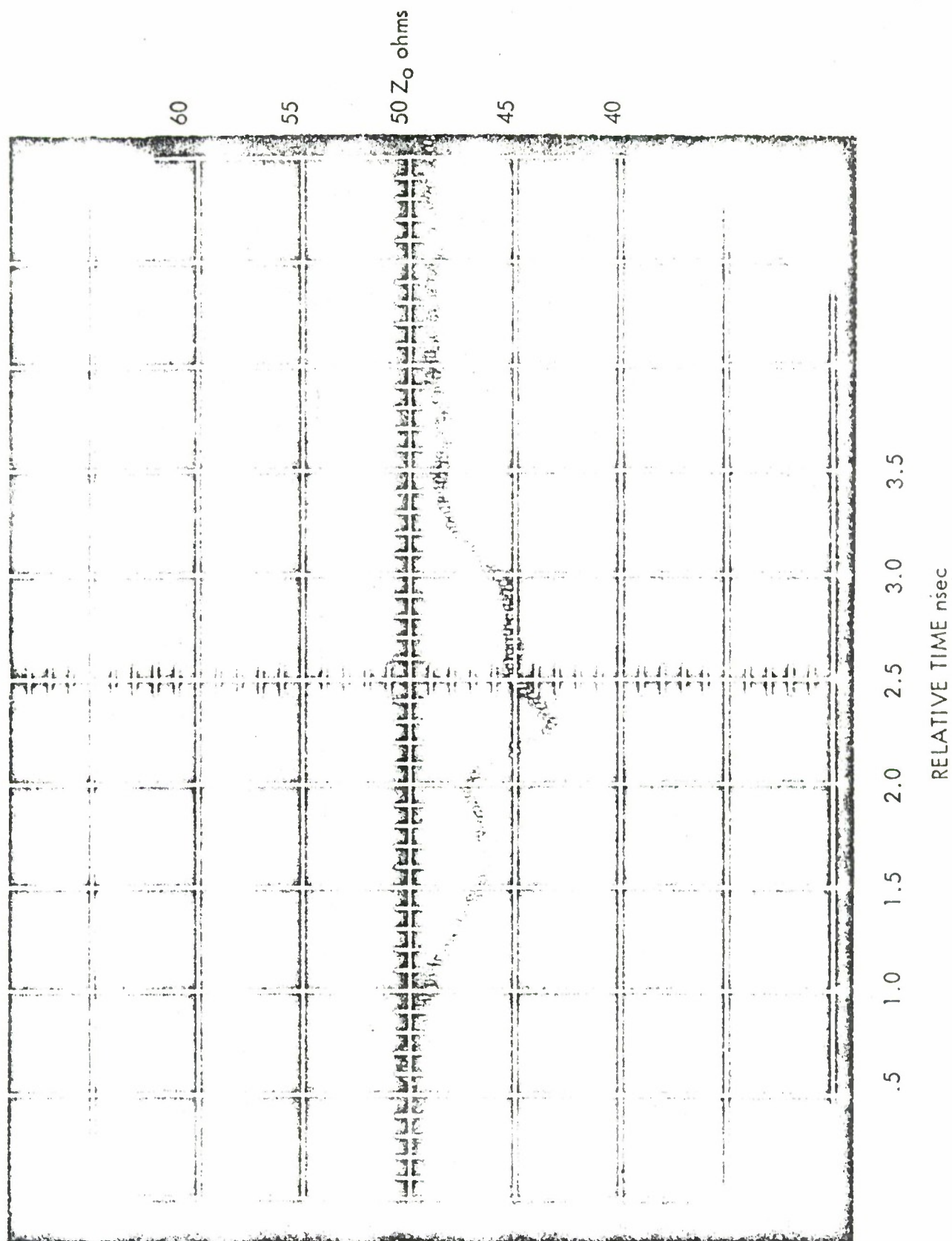


FIGURE 12

Characteristic impedance of 50 ohm microstrip package as measured by pulse technique

VII. FUTURE PLANS

A further improvement in this transistor which is now possible is to planarize it, including expanded contacts. This will improve repeatability by eliminating the damage to the crystals which is caused by thermal compression bonding. TI's proposal to Lincoln Laboratory dated 26 July 1963 describes an extensive but feasible program for planarizing the device. Planarizing also will give new design freedom in the geometry of germanium transistors. This will be a big step forward, leading probably to higher frequencies and lower base resistances.

VIII. SUMMARY

As the data indicates, the basic objectives of the germanium microwave switching transistor program under Lincoln Laboratory Order No. C-00949 have been achieved, obtaining an average base resistance of 51 ohms while retaining a high cut-off frequency f_T averaging 2.8 gc. A microstrip package has been designed, samples built, and evaluation has begun. Fifty transistors have been submitted to Lincoln Laboratory as state-of-the-art samples.

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| 13. ABSTRACT Texas Instruments has completed a program under Lincoln Laboratory Order No. C-00949 to improve the germanium microwave switching transistor developed under previous contracts with Lincoln Laboratory. The principal objective was to materially reduce base resistance, r_b , while maintaining or slightly increasing the high cut-off frequency, f_T . Early stages of the work under this order were described in an Interim Report, and this final report describes the total work and the results obtained. | | | |
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